

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

10/043,413

Examiner

Prieto B.

Applicant(s)

MILOUSHEV ET AL.

Art Unit

2142

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 12/31/07.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 35-55.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

- |                                                                                                            |                                                                                       |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)                                | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application                     |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                       | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____ |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____    | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment                   |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit<br>of Biological Material | 8. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance             |
|                                                                                                            | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____                                               |

*Examiner's Comments*

1. The following prior art made of record and considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Copies of Non-Patent Literature documents cited will be provided as set forth in MPEP§ 707.05(a):

The closest prior of record: (US 6,256,031)

Meijer et. al. discloses an information server storing a single hierarchical representation including aggregated directories and aggregated namespace of multiple file systems in a plurality of sites in the group of file servers, where the namespaces include attributes/metadata "file objects" of the multiple file systems. The system comprises a group of client computers accessing a group of sites comprising a plurality of different servers storing a plurality of files accessible by the client computers through said information server service. The information server comprising a database configured to store aggregated directories and namespaces of the multiple servers storing the plurality of files and presenting them as single file system to the client computers and/or a single service. The namespaces of virtual and physical directories are integrated into a common namespace in a hierarchical representation thereof perceived by the client as a single namespace. The virtual namespace is aggregated (merged) with the physical namespace into an integrated namespace, including mapping between the physical location of the files and the path name e.g. URL for accessing the files.

Thus, the above-mentioned reference teaches aggregated directories of the multiple file systems in a plurality of file servers in the group of file servers.

2. Any comments Applicants considers necessary must be submitted no later than the payment of the Issue Fee and to avoid processing delays, should preferable accompany the Issue Fees. Such submission should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance". In event of any post-allowance papers (e.g. IDS, 312 amendment, petition, etc.), Applicant is exhorted to mail papers to the Production Control branch in Publications or faxed to

Art Unit: 2142

post-allowance papers correspondence branch at (571) 272-4200 to expedite issuing process or call PUB's Customer Service if any questions at (703) 305-8497.

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Prieto, B. whose telephone number is (571) 272-3902. The Examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 6:00 to 3:30 p.m. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the Examiner's Supervisor, Andrew T. Caldwell can be reached at (571) 272-3868. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the General Information/Receptionist whose telephone number is (371) 272-2100 and fax is number is (571) 273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system, status information for published application may be obtained from either Private or Public PAIR, for unpublished application Private PAIR only (see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov> or the Electronic Business Center at 866-217-9197 (toll-free)).

Any response to this action should be mailed to:  
Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Hand carried or delivered to:  
Customer Service Window located at the Randolph Bldg.  
401 Dulany St.  
Alexandria, VA 22314

Faxed to the Central Fax Office:  
(571) 273-8300 (New Central Fax No.)  
Or Telephone:  
(571) 272-2100 for TC 2100 Customer Service Office.

B. Prieto  
Primary Examiner

*Beatriz Prieto*  
BEATRIZ PRIETO  
PRIMARY EXAMINER